

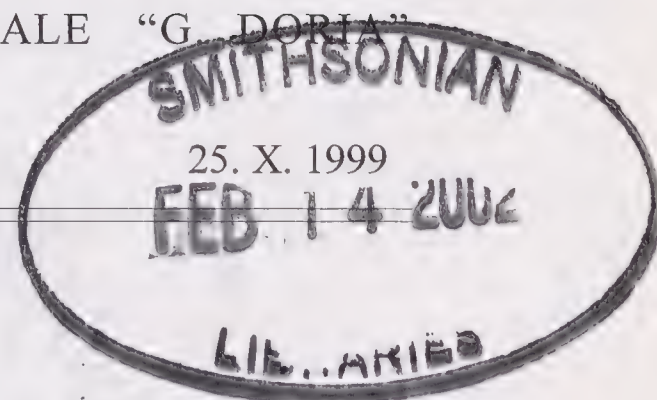
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DIGNOMUS URBANUS N. SP. FROM SAUDI ARABIA (COLEOPTERA, PTINIDAE)

The group *Dignomus pulverulentus* (Boieldieu) consists of 6 species of spider beetles distributed over the northeastern Africa, Arabian Peninsula and Minor Asia (BELLÉS 1996). The species belonging to the group are characteristic of their bodies completely covered with light color scales with short, sometimes invisible hairs, and strong well developed and clearly distinctive discal protuberance of pronotum. Another important characteristic feature is the lack of well pronounced sexual dimorphism.

Below presented is the description of a new species of the *Dignomus* Woll., which should be reckoned among the group of *Dignomus pulverulentus*.

***Dignomus urbanus* n. sp.**

Description. Length 2.9-3.0 mm (fig. 1). Body redbrown. Antennal segments long; first 5-6 segments covered by white scales. Eyes moderately convex, with very small pubescence in the middle part. Frons and crown covered by white scales. Pronotum with weakly set off a discal protuberance. Posterior bords of discal protuberance of pronotum darkish. Lateral protuberances flattened and weakly distinct. Basal appendices of pronotum black ended and considerably removed from the base of pronotum; anterior part of pronotum and part between appendices with delicate, longitudinal costae. In front of base of pronotum a distinct, transversal furrow. Anterior and lateral part of pronotum and base of pronotum with single, white scales. Scutellum oval, covered by white scales. Elytra longitudinal, nearly equilateral and widely rounded in their upper part. Humeri large, distinct. Middle part of elytra darkbrown and without scales; anterior and upper part of elytra redbrown, nearly completely covered by wide white scales. Rows distinct; punctures small and shallow.

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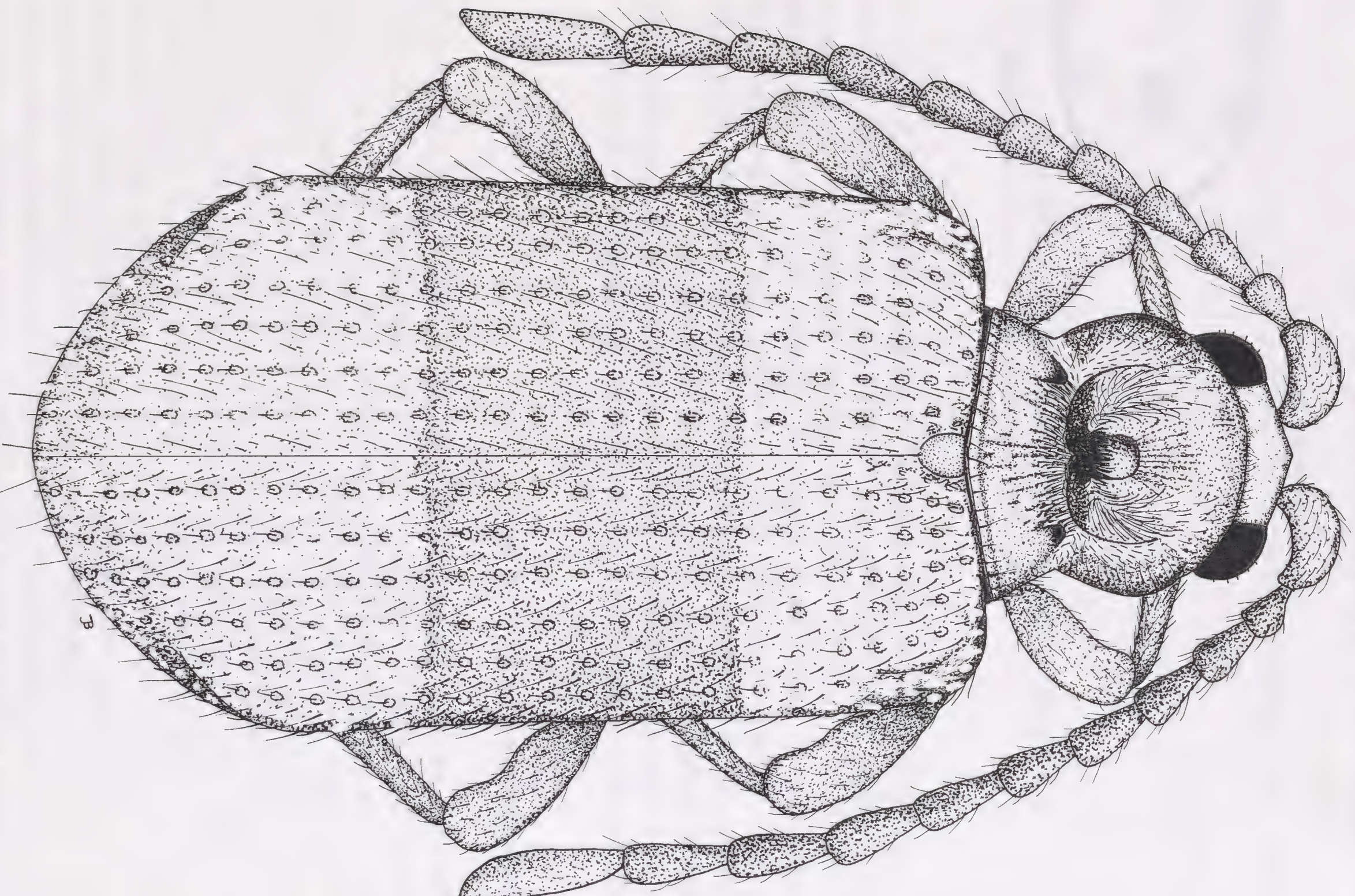
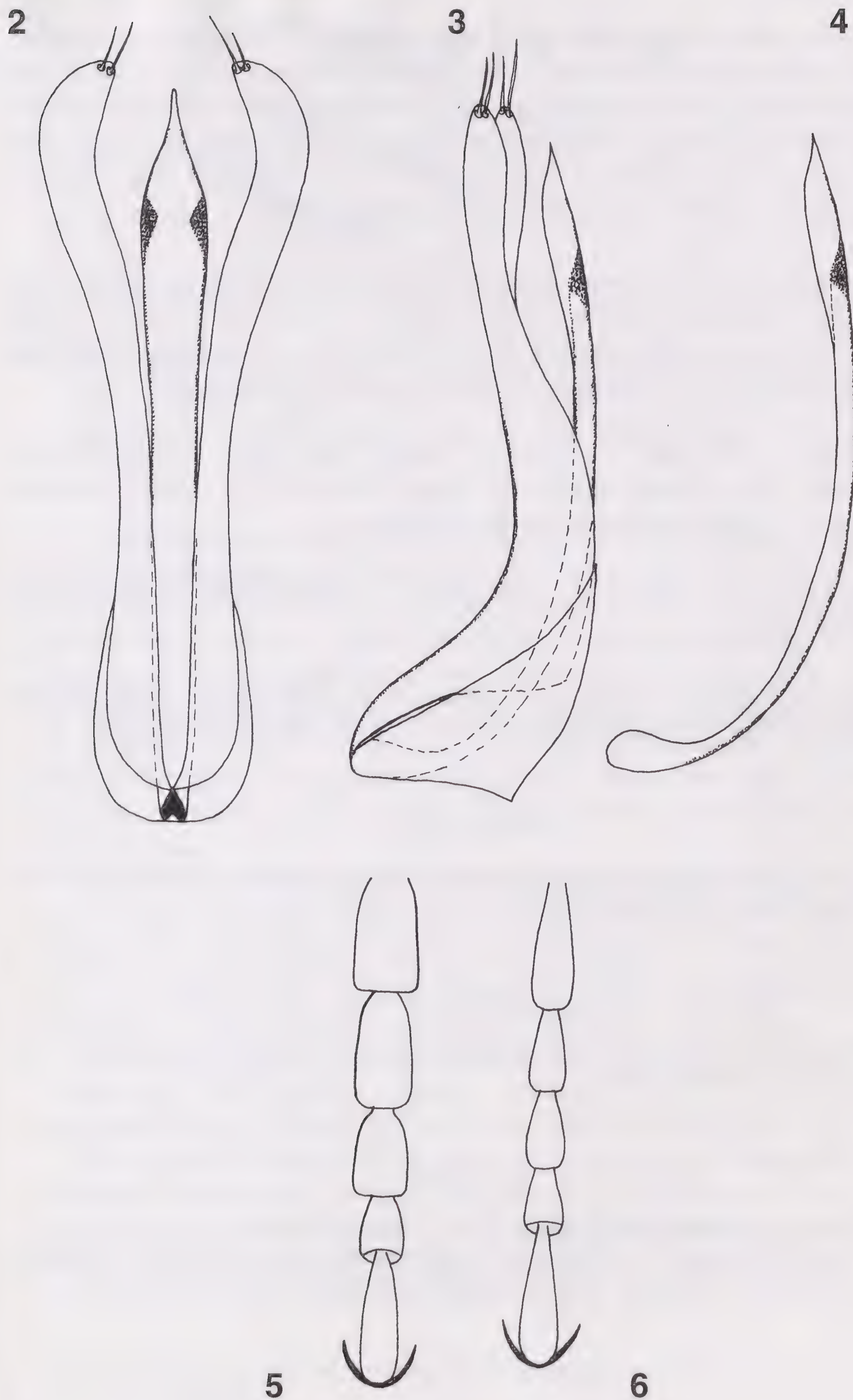


Fig. 1. *Dignomus urbanus* n.sp., dorsal view



Figs. 2-3. Aedeagus of *Dignomus urbanus* n.sp.; 2 - frontal view, 3 - lateral view. Fig. 4. Median lobe of aedeagus, lateral view. Figs. 5-6. Tarsi segments of *Dignomus urbanus* n.sp.; 5 male, 6 - female.



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Elytral pubescence in rows short and adherent; in intervals hairs uniform, yellow, short and thickish, erect, inclined towards sides and apex. Lower part of body and legs covered by white scales. Aedeagus with lanceolate median lobe; apical part of median lobe with two lateral denticles (figs. 2, 3, 4). Sexual dimorphism weakly distinct; male: antennal segments longer than female's; tarsi segments thicker (especially first) than female's (figs. 5, 6)

R e m a r k s . The species is distinctive from all other species belonging to the group of *Dignomus pulverulentus* because of its dark and scale-less central part of elytra and poorly exposed discal protuberance of pronotum and longer (comparing with other species of the group) intervals pubescence.

T y p e s . Holotype: ♂, "Arabia Saudita, Wadi Jizan, 30-XI-1978, G. Filipponi", coll. Museo Civico di Storia Naturale "G. Doria", Genova. Paratype: ♀, with the same data, coll. J. Borowski.

D e r i v a t i o n o m i n i s . The name is derived from the Latin name of "municipal".

A c k n o w l e d g e m e n t s . I would like to thank Dr. R. Poggi (Museo Civico di Storia Naturale "Giacomo Doria") for the loan of the material.

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BELLÉS X., 1996 - El género *Dignomus* Wollaston (Coleoptera, Ptinidae) - *Boll. Soc. Hist. nat. Balears*, Palma de Mallorca, **39**: 209-228.

ABSTRACT

The new species *Dignomus urbanus* is described from Saudi Arabia. It should be placed into the *Dignomus pulverulentus* group.

RIASSUNTO

Dignomus urbanus n. sp. dell'Arabia Saudita (Coleoptera, Ptinidae).

Viene descritta la nuova specie *Dignomus urbanus*, appartenente al gruppo di *Dignomus pulverulentus* (Boieldieu), sulla base di due esemplari rinvenuti nel 1978 nello Wadi Jizan.